

7-1-7 Identifying Milestone Dates Activity

Scenario set #1

Instructions

- Read through the following four scenarios and determine the relevant 7-1-7 milestone date for emergence, detection, notification, and early response action completion.
- Look at the 7-1-7 Milestone Dates Reference Guide for details on the date definitions.
- If you are doing this activity in a group, discuss the answers together in your group.

Scenarios

Date of emergence

Novarica is a malaria-endemic country with nine districts. On January 15, the Central District surpassed the alert threshold of 50 cases per 100,000 population. The two neighboring districts, North and South Districts, surpassed the threshold on January 16 and 17, respectively. However, the threshold for the entire country was never surpassed.

What is the date of **emergence** in the Central District?

- a. There is not one since malaria is endemic.
- b. There is not one because the threshold was never surpassed by the country.
- c. January 15 because that is when the threshold was surpassed in the Central District.
- d. January 17 because that is when three districts surpassed the threshold.

Date of detection

Zika virus is endemic in the Central American country of San Lorenzo. Every week, each state aggregates reports from its districts on Zika cases. When new cases exceed 1,000 state-wide, the State Board of Health begins an outbreak response. Additionally, the country's providers must screen for and report on positive microcephaly cases. On Monday, December 11, the Valle Verde Clinic documented three new cases of microcephaly. The Valle Verde Clinic reported their cases to their State Board of Health on Thursday, December 14, on schedule. They included a note with their report about the unusual cases of microcephaly in Valle Verde. On schedule, the State Board of Health published their weekly report on their website the following Monday, December 18. There were 1,002 cases of Zika reported across the state for the week of December 11-15. They activated their response on December 20.

What is the date of **detection**?

- a. There is not a date of detection because Zika is endemic to San Lorenzo.
- b. December 11 because that is when the clinic documented the cases.
- c. December 14 because that is when the State became aware of the cases in Valle Verde.
- d. December 18 because that is when the aggregated data indicated that the incidence threshold was surpassed.
- e. December 20 because that is when the response began.

Date of notification

The clinic in Kasulu saw a patient who had symptoms consistent with mpox. They sent the specimen for testing on May 26. The lab that tested the specimen reported, per protocol, to the public health authority and to the doctor that the specimen was positive for mpox on May 29.

What is the date of **notification**?

- a. May 26 because that is when the doctor suspected mpox.
- b. May 26 because that is when the test was positive.
- c. May 26 because that is when the doctor recorded the positive test result in the patient file.
- d. May 29 because the lab reported the result to the public health authorities.

Date of early response action completion

In early March 2023, health authorities in Kazalabad received reports of an unusually high number of patients presenting with severe respiratory symptoms. Concerns arose about a potential outbreak, prompting the immediate deployment of a Rapid Response Team. The RRT, consisting of epidemiologists, healthcare professionals, and logistical support staff, was activated on March 13. The team quickly convened at the Health Department's Emergency Operations Center to assess the extent of the outbreak and formulate a response plan. They enacted all relevant actions. On March 14, field investigations began as the RRT visited affected areas to collect samples, conduct interviews and a risk assessment, and identify potential sources of the outbreak. On March 15, public health messages were disseminated to inform residents about preventive measures and encourage prompt medical attention for symptoms. The lab test results were confirmed on March 17.

What is the date of the **early response action completion**?

- a. March 13
- b. March 14
- c. March 15
- d. March 17